First Congregational
United Church of Christ

111 S. Wallace Blvd. Ypsilanti, MI 48197
(Mailing Address: P.O. Box 980413 Ypsilanti, MI 48198)
www.ypsiucc.org

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice

July 23, 2023
10:00 am

The Journey Continues

Second Sunday after Pentecost

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, You are welcome here!

WORSHIP ON ZOOM -- Zoom opens at 9:45 am Sunday morning.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7643282234

Meeting ID: 764 328 2234
Passcode: Ypsi1882
To join by phone, dial the number, 1-312-626-6799

- Welcome to Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC's Interactive – Zoom Worship Service
- Hymns are included in the worship bulletin. A separate hymnal is not needed.
- If you are joining worship for the first-time on Zoom, please add your name and email to the chat so know of your presence.
- Thank you for choosing to worship with us today!

OPEN AND AFFIRMING COVENANT OF
First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti celebrates everyone, including people of all ages, races, cultures, sexual orientations, gender identifies and expressions, family configurations, economic circumstances, physical, cognitive or emotional abilities, education or spiritual or religious traditions. All are welcome to participate fully in the life, leadership, ministry, and missions of this church as we seek to grow together in a safe, nurturing community of faith. We strive to demonstrate in all ways that "NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!"

a just world for all
ucc.org

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

RINGING THE BELL — **MARTY KLEINO**

PRELUDE — ***Start Zoom Recoding to Cloud — **JOSHUA CATANIA**

"For the Beauty of the Earth"
Conrad Kocher/Folliott S. Pierpoint

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS — **PATTY SHERWOOD**

- A warm welcome to all, including first-time visitors.
- As stated in our Open and Affirming Covenant (previous page), all persons are welcome in this community of faith.
- It is a pleasure to have the **Revs. Nancy & John Rohde** sharing their faith and love with us this morning. **Nancy** will bring the message today and **John** will be the liturgist.
- **Patty Sherwood,** Zoom Host, will introduce folks participating in worship.
- Please share your announcements so everyone can learn what is happening in our beloved community.
- Please submit written announcements to by e-mail to Margaret Harner, Worship Coordinator, margaretsharner@gmail.com

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

GATHERING HYMN — *Microphone muted — **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"You Are Welcome Here"
26 SING

CALL TO WORSHIP — *Responsive**,** microphone muted — **JOHN ROHDE**

Leader: As we harvest our growing abundance in this time of mid-summer, may we relish the fruit of our labor,

People: As we harvest the fruitful seeds of nature and God's Garden, let us share the bounty with our neighbors.

Leader: While we channel resources – water, light, fertile ground to the produce we desire in our gardens,

People: May we also recognize the weed, the rabbit, the caterpillar also has needs for sustenance.

Leader: We have enough, and our attitude of plentifulness increases through sharing.

People: May we share the harvest by tithing back to nature, feeding the hungry among us, storing for the future without hoarding, and setting enough seed aside for the next season of planting.

HYMN — *Microphone muted — **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Glory, Glory Hallelujah"
2 NCH

LISTENING FOR GOD

READINGS **NANCY AND JOHN ROHDE**

Wisdom of Solomon 12:16-19
Romans 8:12-28
Matthew 13:24-30

HYMN *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Touch the Earth Lightly"
569 NCH

MORNING MESSAGE **"The Journey Continues"** **NANCY ROHDE**

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Pause Zoom recording **NANCY ROHDE**

*Zoomies: Please turn on your microphone

You are invited to share your joys and petitions for prayer.
Please unmute your microphone to share a joy or make a prayer of petition.
At the end of each joy or petition, please say **"God in your mercy"**
We will respond (with microphones muted) **"Hear our prayers"**

PASTORAL PRAYER *Restart Zoom recording **NANCY ROHDE**

DISCIPLES' PRAYER *Unison with Microphone muted

God of creation and plenty,
It can be easy for us to forget the abundant nature of your love.
We forget there are ample riches from this earth if we manage
your resources and share generously among all your beloved children.
We forget we are all created in your holy vision of a people who can
love without bounds, share without tallying,
and celebrate the great diversity you created to thrive together.
Guide us to give of that abundance, to receive with grace and gratitude, and to turn
our hearts from the perception of scarcity.
We confess we fall short; and we ask you show us the path again,
to your fruitful garden where all things grow and flourish. Amen.

Use this moment of silence to offer your own prayers.

OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING **JOHN ROHDE**

Our electronic giving platform is Tithe.ly: Link to Tithe.ly

Checks can be mailed to:
First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Thank you for your generosity!

OFFERTORY **"How Can I Keep from Singing"** **JOSHUA CATANIA**
Robert Lowry

DOXOLOGY *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Take My Gifts" v 2, 562 NCH

Take the fruits that I have gathered from the tree your Spirit sowed,
Harvest of your own compassion, juice that makes the wine of God,
Spiced with humor, laced with laughter, flavor of the Jesus life,
*Tang of risk and new adventure, taste and zest beyond belief***.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *Unison with Microphone muted **JOHN ROHDE**

May these gifts plant seeds of justice for God's children who seek it.
May they remind us to love more mercifully,
May all walk humbly as we learn to trod gently upon this earth. Amen.

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

CLOSING HYMN *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"You Are the Seed (Sois la Semilla)"
528 NCH

BENEDICTION **NANCY ROHDE**

POSTLUDE **"Great Is Your Faithfulness** **JOSHUA CATANIA**
William M. Runyan/Thomas Chislom

PASSING THE PEACE **FRIENDS GATHERED**

*Save Zoom Recording to Cloud (click "yes")

Share a greeting with others as we transition to our casual **Friendship Time.**

Zoom Only Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Rev. Nancy Rohde, Bringing the Message
Rev. John Rohde, Liturgist
Tiffanie Waldron, Music Director
Joshua Catania, Accompanist
Jenn Zibbell, MID

YPSILANTI FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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734-482-6980
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ATTRIBUTIONS FOR TODAY'S BULLETIN

- **Cover Art:** Marco Silva in *Unsplash*
- **Call to Worship, Disciples Prayer, Offering Invitation, Prayer of Dedication, Benediction:** *ucc.org/worshp-way July 23* (adapted)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For pastoral care needs and/or emergencies, please call or text Marty Kleino, Congregational Life Coordinator at 734-262-1419.

Worship Next Week: Zoom Host/Liturgist, Patty Sherwood; Bringing the Message, Rev. LeAnn Seito.

Rev. Jay Cummings will join us again August 13th.

Relaunch of the Tea for the Soul from Rev. Dan: He reports the ministry with night staff at St. Jos Hosp is going well. He served 85 staff members this week. The animal crackers were a terrific hit, as it brought back really good memories for some of the staff.

As you may have heard on the news, Trinity Health Ann Arbor (St. Joe's) is suffering on its budget, due to a major gap in Medicare/Medicaid reimbursement. This is a national issue affecting all Michigan hospitals. (Dan's) *department has no funds currently available for such things as supplies. So .... that makes your donations extremely helpful.*

Current needs include:

- Hot Cups/lids (no Styrofoam please)
- Coffee
- Snacks

If we provide more Ypsi UCC stickers, Dan will place one on each cup.

Contact Marty (734-262-1419) who will make arrangements to get our contributions to Dan.

OUR MINISTRIES

HOLY GROUNDS AND TEA FOR THE SOUL

During the Omicron (COVID) surge members of Ypsi UCC provided local coffee, tea, coffee cups, and single packaged snacks for the night shift at Trinity Health St. Joe Mercy Hospital where Rev. Dan Kidder-McQuown is the night challplain. While the COVID crisis has partially resolved, the stress level of the night staff has not. Contributing factors include the long-term emerging effects of COVID, a lack of staff, a nation-wide nurse shortage, and staff burnout. The night shift greatly appreciates this ministry of hospitality and caring.

Please consider donating coffee (locally roasted by Michigan companies,) tea, single packaged candy/snacks and other things that accompany tea. Contact Marty Kleino at Mgkleino@gmail.com or

734-262-1419 to have your donation delivered to St. Joes. If you would like more information about this ministry, please contact Dan Kidder-McQuown at mcq188@gmail.com.

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY – WASHTENAW INTERFAITH COALITION FOR IMMIGRANT RIGHTS (WICIR)

Since 2008, **WICIR** has been working with, and in support of, immigrants in Washtenaw County facing challenges of many kinds. At our inception the primary need that brought us together was to support people facing enforcement action by ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement); most often detention, deportation, and removal. To date, WICIR has responded to 650 calls. Always in partnership with folks most affected, many actions and services have evolved as identified by our immigrant siblings, while always keeping focused on our original mission:

To provide culturally sensitive and supportive urgent response to those in Washtenaw County in immigration-related crises; impact local governmental policies to empower and protect immigrant community members; and work toward humane national immigration reform.

Our outreach has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many in immigrant communities have experienced significant challenges as they struggle to pay rent, provide food for their families and other basic survival needs. To respond, WICIR, in partnership with Mexiquenses in Michigan (from St. Francis of Assisi Parish), has raised and distributed $200,000 relief funds to immigrants and their families. We have a waiting list of those still in need and will continue this effort as funds are available.

For information about what's happening with immigrant rights and **Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights**, or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Melanie Harner at melharner@gmail.com or through the WICIR website: https://wicir.org/. You can also find a link on the church website.

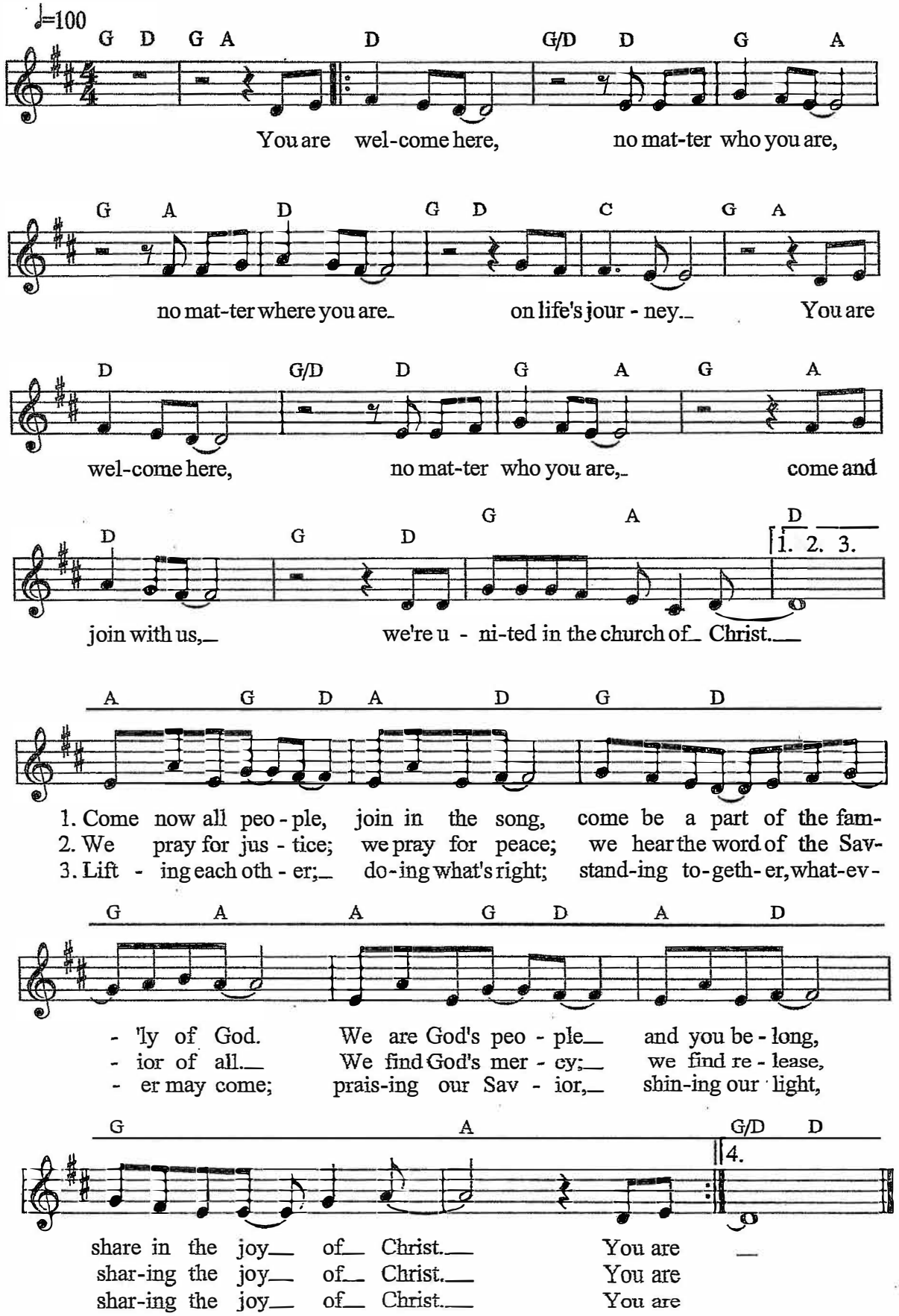
WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION

First Congregational is a founding institution of the local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition)**. In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. WeROC members are, at our core, focused on intentionally re-weaving the frayed fabric of community at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated. Especially in this time when so many are being hit by the health and economic crises, WeROC's focus on raising voices of those most affected is more important than ever (See COVID-19 Resources at www.werocmi.org) WeROC's Mission Statement is:

WeROC brings together faith, labor, community organizations, and individuals to build the healthy collective power needed to break down the systems that sustain injustice, racism, and economic inequality.

WeROC is affiliated with the Detroit Metro organization MOSES and the Gamliel National Network. Contact Tad Wysor at tadwysor@gmail.com or 734-883-3225.

This past election year showed us good things can happen when we're working together in the same direction. WeROC is moving rapidly **forward** to keep momentum going and find ways to continue to be more effective together in making our communities healthier and more vibrant places; improving the lives of *everyone* in big ways-- especially those who are most vulnerable and whose voice have seldom been heard.

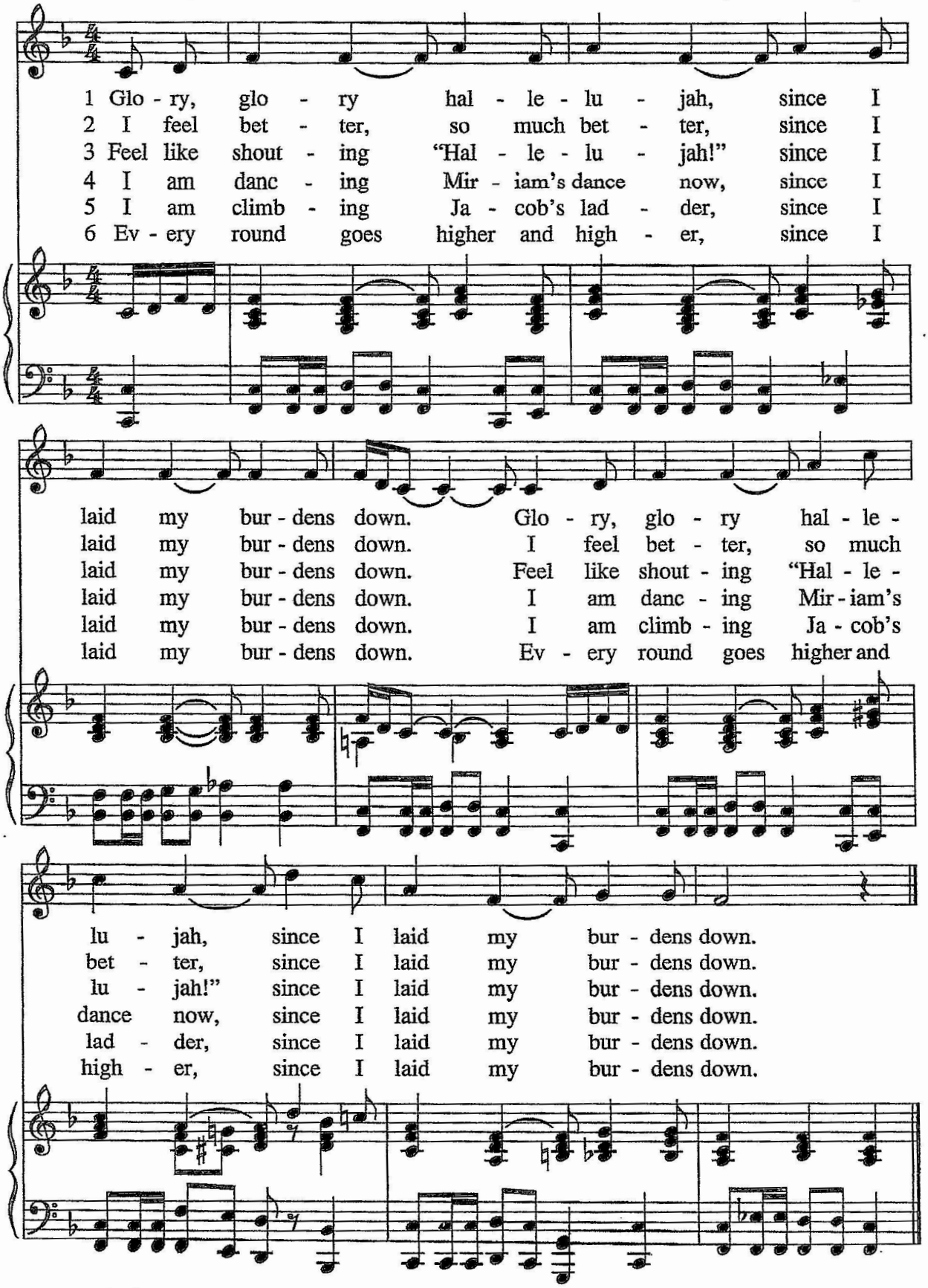
You Are Welcome Here

♩=100
G D G A D G/D D G A
You are wel-come here, no mat-ter who you are,
G A D G D C G A
no mat-ter where you are_ on life's jour - ney._ You are
D G/D D G A G A
wel-come here, no mat-ter who you are,_ come and
D G D G A D
1. 2. 3.
join with us,_ we're u - ni-ted in the church of_ Christ.__
A G D A D G D
1. Come now all peo - ple, join in the song, come be a part of the fam-
2. We pray for jus - tice; we pray for peace; we hear the word of the Sav-
3. Lift - ing each oth - er;_ do-ing what's right; stand-ing to-geth-er, what-ev-
G A A G D A D
- 'ly of God. We are God's peo - ple__ and you be - long,
- ior of all.__ We find God's mer - cy;__ we find re - lease,
- er may come; prais-ing our Sav - ior,__ shin-ing our light,
G A G/D D
4.
share in the joy__ of__ Christ.__ You are __
shar-ing the joy__ of__ Christ.__ You are
shar-ing the joy__ of__ Christ.__ You are

Words and Music: Gerard DeMan, Copyright ©2007. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

2 Glory, Glory Hallelujah

Exod. 15:20; Gen. 28:12; Ps. 81:6

African-American spiritual

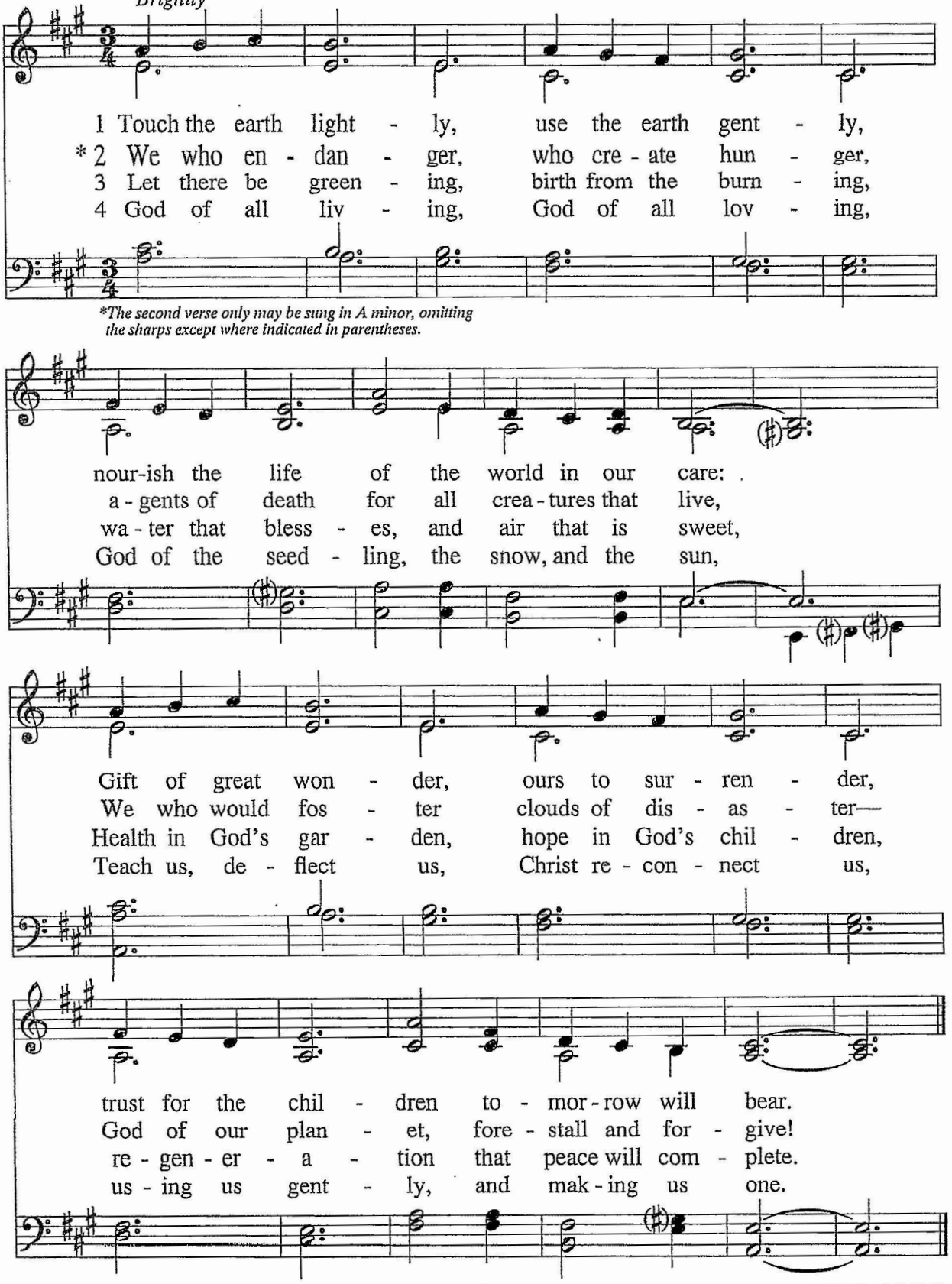

1 Glo - ry, glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah, since I
2 I feel bet - ter, so much bet - ter, since I
3 Feel like shout - ing "Hal - le - lu - jah!" since I
4 I am danc - ing Mir - iam's dance now, since I
5 I am climb - ing Ja - cob's lad - der, since I
6 Ev - ery round goes higher and high - er, since I
laid my bur - dens down. Glo - ry, glo - ry hal - le -
laid my bur - dens down. I feel bet - ter, so much
laid my bur - dens down. Feel like shout - ing "Hal - le -
laid my bur - dens down. I am danc - ing Mir - iam's
laid my bur - dens down. I am climb - ing Ja - cob's
laid my bur - dens down. Ev - ery round goes higher and
lu - jah, since I laid my bur - dens down.
bet - ter, since I laid my bur - dens down.
lu - jah!" since I laid my bur - dens down.
dance now, since I laid my bur - dens down.
lad - der, since I laid my bur - dens down.
high - er, since I laid my bur - dens down.

Despite their physical captivity, the enslaved of antebellum America often found an inward freedom through their faith in Jesus the liberator. This liberation, which permitted them to sing rejoicingly, anticipated their eventual physical emancipation.

Tune: GLORY, GLORY 8.7.8.7.
African-American spiritual
Arr. Joyce Finch Johnson, 1992

569 Touch the Earth Lightly

Unison
Brightly

Shirley Erena Murray, 1992

1 Touch the earth light - ly, use the earth gent - ly,
*2 We who en - dan - ger, who cre - ate hun - ger,
3 Let there be green - ing, birth from the burn - ing,
4 God of all liv - ing, God of all lov - ing,
nour-ish the life of the world in our care:
a - gents of death for all crea - tures that live,
wa - ter that bless - es, and air that is sweet,
God of the seed - ling, the snow, and the sun,
Gift of great won - der, ours to sur - ren - der,
We who would fos - ter clouds of dis - as - ter—
Health in God's gar - den, hope in God's chil - dren,
Teach us, de - flect us, Christ re - con - nect us,
trust for the chil - dren to - mor - row will bear.
God of our plan - et, fore - stall and for - give!
re - gen - er - a - tion that peace will com - plete.
us - ing us gent - ly, and mak - ing us one.

**The second verse only may be sung in A minor, omitting the sharps except where indicated in parentheses.*

Shirley Erena Murray's notes on this hymn state that the title line is borrowed from an Australian Aboriginal saying. The "clouds of disaster" mentioned in stanza 2 refer to nuclear testing by France, which New Zealand has protested at the United Nations many times.

Tune: TENDERNESS 5.5.10.D.
Colin Gibson, 1992

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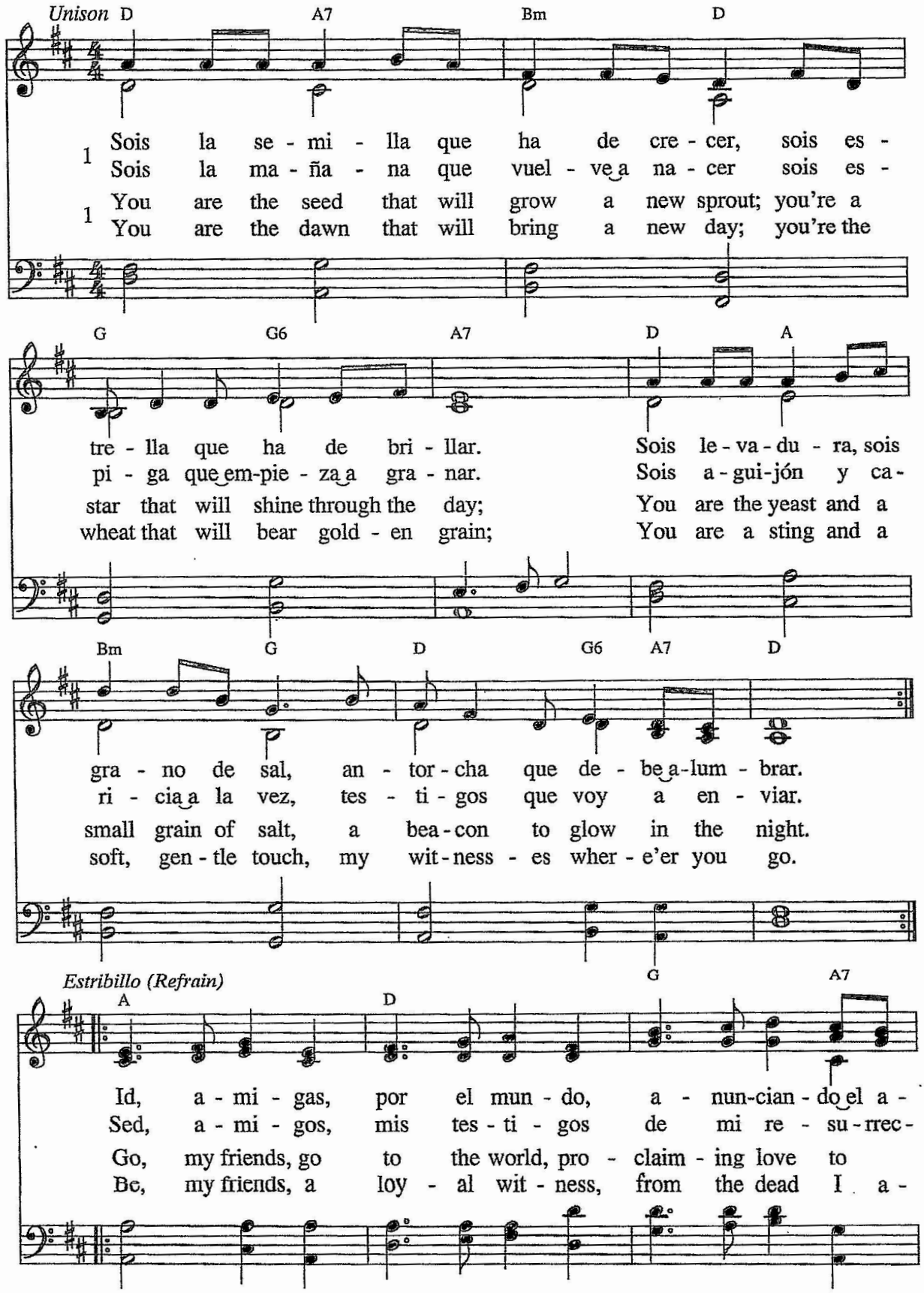
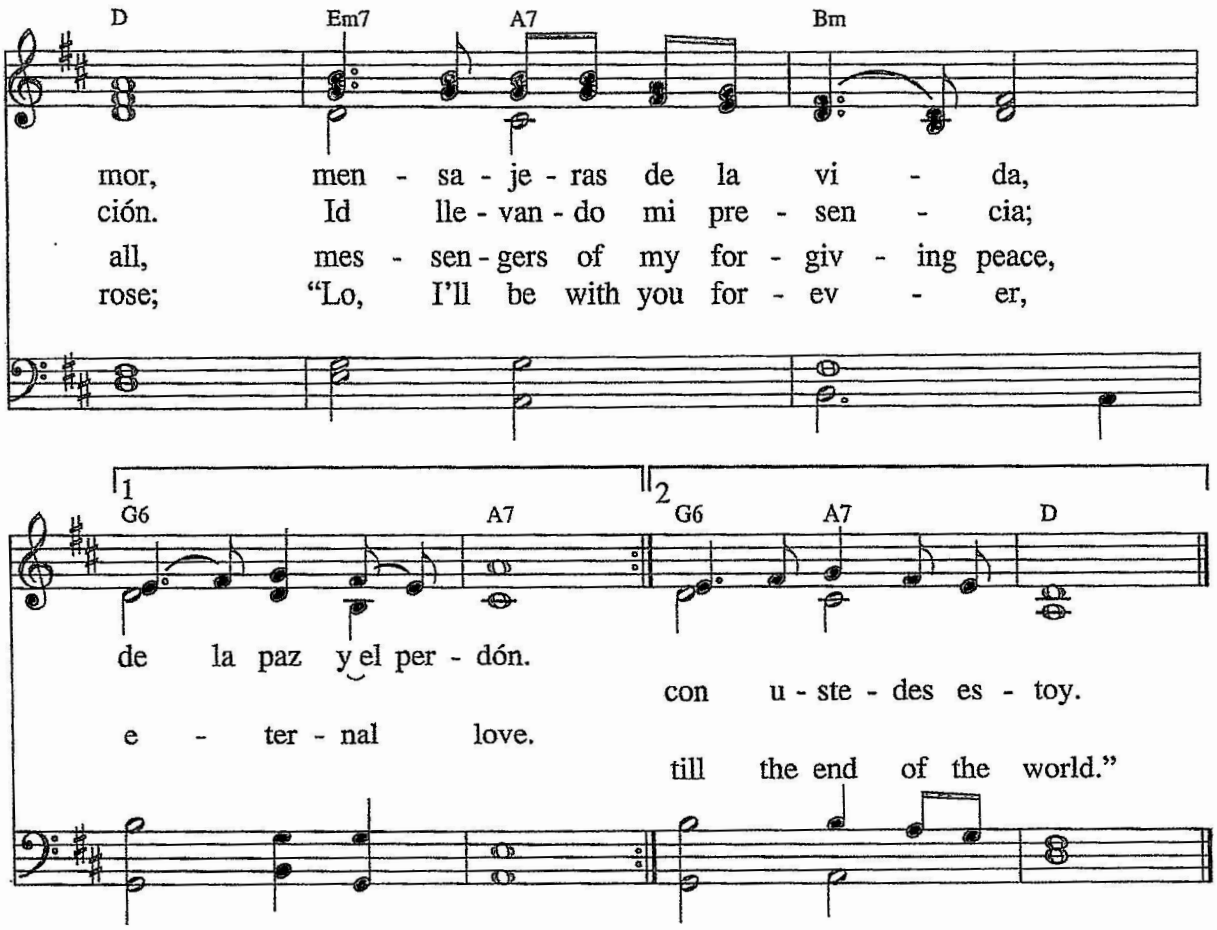
528 Sois la Semilla
(You Are the Seed)

Matt. 13:24–30, 33, 36–43; 5:13–16; 28:18–20

Cesáreo Gabaraín, 1979; alt.
Transl. Raquel Gutiérrez-Achon and Skinner Chávez-Melo, 1987; alt.

Unison
D A7 Bm D
1 Sois la se - mi - lla que ha de cre - cer, sois es -
Sois la ma - ña - na que vuel - ve a na - cer sois es -
1 You are the seed that will grow a new sprout; you're a
You are the dawn that will bring a new day; you're the
G G6 A7 D A
tre - lla que ha de bri - llar. Sois le - va - du - ra, sois
pi - ga que em-pie - za a gra - nar. Sois a - gui - jón y ca -
star that will shine through the day; You are the yeast and a
wheat that will bear gold - en grain; You are a sting and a
Bm G D G6 A7 D
gra - no de sal, an - tor - cha que de - be a - lum - brar.
ri - cia a la vez, tes - ti - gos que voy a en - viar.
small grain of salt, a bea - con to glow in the night.
soft, gen - tle touch, my wit - ness - es wher - e'er you go.
Estribillo (Refrain)
A D G A7
Id, a - mi - gas, por el mun - do, a - nun - cian - do el a -
Sed, a - mi - gos, mis tes - ti - gos de mi re - su - rrec -
Go, my friends, go to the world, pro - claim - ing love to
Be, my friends, a loy - al wit - ness, from the dead I a -

Copyright © 1979, Cesáreo Gabaraín. Published by OCP Publications.

D
Em7
A7
Bm
mor, men - sa - je - ras de la vi - da,
ción. Id lle - van - do mi pre - sen - cia;
all, mes - sen - gers of my for - giv - ing peace,
rose; "Lo, I'll be with you for - ev - er,
1
2
G6
A7
G6
A7
D
de la paz y el per - dón.
con u - ste - des es - toy.
e - ter - nal love.
till the end of the world."

2 Sois u-na lla-ma
que ha de en-cen-der
res-plan-do-res de fe y ca-ri-dad.
Sois los pas-to-res que han de lle-var
al mun-do por sen-das de paz.
Sois los a-mi-gos que qui-se es-co-ger,
sois pa-la-bra que in-ten-to es-par-cir.
Sois rei-no nue-vo
que em-pie-za a en-gen-drar
jus-ti-cia, a-mor y ver-dad.
Estribillo

3 Sois fue-go y sa-bia
que vi-ne a tra-er,
sois la o-la que a-gi-ta la mar.
La le-va-du-ra pe-que-ña de a-yer
fer-men-ta la ma-sa del pan.
U-na ciu-dad no se pue-de es-con-der,
ni los mon-tes se han de o-cul-tar,
en es-tas o-bras que bus-can el bien,
el mun-do a Dios ha de ver.
Estribillo

2 You are the flame that will bright-en
the way,
send-ing spar-kles of hope, faith,
and love;
you are the shep-herds
to lead the whole world
through val-leys and pas-tures of peace.
You are the friends that I chose for my-self,
the word that I want to pro-claim.
You are the cit-y that's built on a rock
where jus-tice and truth al-ways reign.
Refrain

3 You are the life that will nur-ture the plant;
you're the waves in a tur-bu-lent sea;
yes-ter-day's yeast is be-gin-ning to rise,
a new loaf of bread it will yield.
There is no place for a cit-y to hide,
nor a moun-tain can cov-er its might;
may your good deeds
show a world in de-spair
a path that will lead all to God.
Refrain

This hymn by Spanish theologian Cesáreo Gabaraín first appeared in the collection Dios con nosotros, *published in Madrid. The tune, which can be translated in English as "Go and Teach," was arranged by Mexican organist and choral director Skinner Chávez-Melo.*

Tune: ID Y ENSEÑAD 10.9.10.8.D. with refrain
Cesáreo Gabaraín, 1979
Harm. Skinner Chávez-Melo, 1987